



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Consumer
Service

Mountain
Plains
Region

1244 Speer Boulevard
Denver, CO
80204-2581

Reply to
Attn of:

SP-99-24

AUG 23 1999

Subject:

Requirements for Reviews of Afterschool Care Programs Receiving Reimbursement for Snacks Served Under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

To:

STATE AGENCY DIRECTORS - Colorado ED, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri ED,
(Child Nutrition Programs) Montana OPI, Nebraska ED, North Dakota,
South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming

We understand that a number of questions have come up regarding the review requirements for the reimbursement of snacks served under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). We would like to take this opportunity to clarify these issues, and to ask you to remind school food authorities of the initial training and monitoring requirements they must meet.

Most school food authorities claiming reimbursement for afterschool snacks will be doing so for the first time during school year (SY) 1999 - 2000. In many cases, the staff distributing the snacks will be new to this element of food service, and thus will be in need of some training. Please urge participating school food authorities to offer training to these new employees as soon as possible after the start of the SY. This will help ensure the installation and maintenance of accurate counting and claiming systems and compliance with the snack meal pattern.

Furthermore, Section 210.9 (c)(7), which describes review requirements for afterschool care programs, states that school food authorities administering afterschool snacks must "Review each afterschool care program two times a year; the first review shall be made during the first four weeks that the school is in operation each school year . . ." We interpret this time frame to refer to the first four weeks of *snack service*. The reimbursement of afterschool snacks is a new element of the NSLP, and we believe that it is of the utmost importance that school food authorities review each program early in the SY.

We recognize that school food authorities face more administrative responsibilities at the beginning of the SY, but we believe that offering early and thorough training, as well as timely reviews, is the best way to ensure effective and trouble-free operations. If you find that individual school food authorities are experiencing

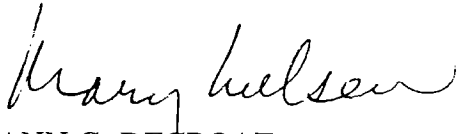
All State Agency Directors

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significant difficulties in meeting the four week initial review requirement, you should advise our office in writing.

We may approve an extension of up to two additional weeks. This would allow a total of six weeks for this initial review. Extensions may be granted only on a case by case basis, where circumstances warrant.

If you have any questions about the information contained herein, please contact our office at (303) 844-0355.



ANN C. DEGROAT
Regional Director
Child Nutrition Programs

